



## MILWAUKEE NUMISMATIC NEWS

November 2019 – The 1007<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the MNS will be held on Thursday, December 20, 7 PM, at our usual location in the Mayfair Mall Community Room, lower level. The scheduled program for December is the annual Christmas/Holiday party, with pizza provided by the club. Elections and educational show and tell will be held.

President: Justin Perrault  
Secretary: James Kubley  
Sgt. at Arms: Dave Herrewig  
Trustee '17-'19: Dave Hunsicker  
Librarian: Justin Perrault

Vice President: Jim Heinrich  
Treasurer: John Bleidorn  
Trustee '19-'21: Lee Hartz  
Trustee '18-'20: Gary Bieringer  
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*The Milwaukee Numismatic Society, founded in 1934, is the oldest and largest organization in Milwaukee devoted to the study of money. Meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the third Thursday of each month in the Community Room on the lower level of Mayfair Mall (W. North Avenue at N. Mayfair Road). The annual MNS coin show is held in October.*

**December Coins of the Month:** For December, we have an uncirculated 5-coin 1964 mint set encased in a Whitman plastic holder. Three coins are 90% silver. Starting bid is just \$15, which is just slightly over the value of the bullion.



## December 2019 MNS President's Message

Hopefully everyone enjoyed a very healthy and happy Thanksgiving as we move into the next round of the holiday season with Christmas and New Year's on the forefront. Our December meeting will entail holding officer elections. The slate of candidates is again noted at the bottom of this message so you know who is running for which positions.

The December meeting will be largely a social occasion as it has been in year's past. Pizza will be provided by the club and all members in attendance are encouraged to bring an additional dish or snack to supplement the occasion. We will have an expanded show and tell segment of the meeting, so if there is something you have been meaning to show all year now would be the time.

We had a visitor at our last meeting – Tony from the Madison Coin Club was in attendance to gather more information on hopefully conducting a Boy Scout Coin Collecting Merit Badge Clinic at one of their local shows next year. It is my expectation that the MNS will give them all the materials and support necessary so that more Scouts can learn about the hobby and hopefully become future collectors. In the moment it may seem futile as if the youth is not interested in the hobby, especially given the track record for signing up new YN's. However, by running the clinic and planting the seed concerning the existence of the hobby in the back of their minds, then hopefully something will take root if not in the immediate future then years later down the road.

The club is always looking for ideas and input for outings we can take. Since the ANA is not in Chicago this year, the only other major regional coin show we have to look forward to is the Central States Numismatic Society show in Schaumburg at the end of April. If there is enough interest the club may rent a van and we can carpool down to the show on that Saturday. Otherwise, an additional outing in June or July would be something to consider.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Christmas Holiday party meeting, but if I don't hopefully you will have a terrific final month to round out your 2019 year!

Happy Collecting,  
Justin J. Perrault  
[masters1122@yahoo.com](mailto:masters1122@yahoo.com)  
262.613.9996

### 2020 Election Candidates

|                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| President:       | Justin J. Perrault |
| Vice President:  | Jim Heinrich       |
| Secretary:       | James Kubley       |
| Treasurer:       | Chris Kantak       |
| Sgt. at Arms:    | Dave Herrewig      |
| Trustee '20-'22: | Dave Hunsicker     |



# MN\$ 2019-2020

## Schedule

Monthly meetings are held at 7:00 pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month in the Community Meeting Room in the lower level of Mayfair Mall. Visitors interested in numismatics are welcome.

## Monthly meeting programs

|           |                                                                           |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Dec 19:   | Holiday Party; Officer Elections                                          |
| Jan 16:   | Officer Inductions                                                        |
| Feb 20:   | "Numismatic Stories & Anecdotes" by: Andy Kimmel                          |
| March 19: | OPEN                                                                      |
| April 16: | "Gold Star Mothers & Their Medals" by: Peter Jacobsohn (No Show and Tell) |
| May 21:   | Spring Auction                                                            |
| June 18:  | OPEN                                                                      |
| July 16:  | Expanded Show and Tell                                                    |
| Aug 20:   | OPEN                                                                      |
| Sept 17:  | Numismatic Trivia Game                                                    |
| Oct 15:   | Raffle Prize Drawing                                                      |
| Nov 19:   | Autumn Auction; Election Slate                                            |
| Dec 17:   | Holiday Party; Officer Elections                                          |

## Annual Dues

Dues for 2020 are \$10. Please pay Leon A. at the next meeting, or they may be mailed to MNS.

PO Box 26886, Wauwatosa, WI 53226-0886.

Thanks to those who have paid. Those who have not paid will be removed from the club's mailing list.

## Random Information

MNS is a volunteer organization. We always need new and interesting programs, activities, helpers to work at events, and someone to bring refreshments for the meetings. We are also looking for ideas for club outings. MNS will reimburse refreshment expenses up to \$60. To volunteer, please contact Pres. Justin Perrault at 262.613.9996 or VP Jim Heinrich at 262.796.1814. Thanks to everyone who has stepped up by volunteering their time and talent to make the club a success.

## 2020 Numismatic Events

|              |                                                                                              |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Feb. 9:      | Manitowoc Show at the City Limits<br>3627 Hwy. CR (9-3 PM)                                   |
| Feb. 16:     | NOW Show at Oshkosh Conv. Ctr.<br>2 N. Main St. (9-4 PM)                                     |
| March 15:    | Waukesha CC Show at New Berlin<br>Ale House (9-4 PM)<br>16000 Cleveland Ave.                 |
| April 5:     | Appleton/Fox Valley CC Show at<br>Red Lion Paper Valley Hotel<br>333 W. College Ave (9-4 PM) |
| April 17-18: | South Shore CC Show (12-6 PM)<br>Four Points Sheraton (10-4 PM)<br>5311 S. Howell Ave.       |
| April 18:    | MNS Scout Merit Badge Clinic<br>In Conjunction with SSCC Show                                |
| April 19:    | WI Valley CC-Wausau Show at<br>Plaza Hotel (9-4 PM)<br>201 N. 17 <sup>th</sup> Ave.          |
| April 20-25: | CSNS Show in Schaumburg, IL                                                                  |
| April 26:    | Nicolet CC Show at Green Bay<br>Stadium View Bar & Grill (9-3 PM)<br>1963 Holmgren Way       |
| Oct. 4:      | MNS Coin Show at Serb Hall<br>5101 W. Oklahoma Ave. (9-4 PM)                                 |

## Refreshment Schedule

|      |               |
|------|---------------|
| Dec: | Holiday Party |
| Jan: | OPEN          |
| Feb: | OPEN          |
| Mar: | OPEN          |
| Apr: | OPEN          |
| May: | OPEN          |
| Jun: | OPEN          |
| Jul: | OPEN          |
| Aug: | Justin P.     |
| Sep: | OPEN          |
| Oct: | OPEN          |
| Nov: | OPEN          |
| Dec: | OPEN          |

# Milwaukee Numismatic Society

## Minutes

November 21, 2019

President Justin Perrault called the 1006th meeting of the MNS to order at 7:02pm. There were 25 members and one guest in attendance. The president led the club in the pledge of allegiance. Door prizes were won by Leon A. Bob G. Justin P. Paul K. Adele V. and James K.

**Coin of the Month:** Bob G. won the coin of the month, 2005 \$1 PF69 Ultra Cameo, with a winning bid of \$15.00

**Minutes Approved:** October 2019 minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** John B. reported that October showed net receipts of \$736.00, net disbursements of \$1,147.71 and total cash flow of -\$411.71

**Correspondence:** Coins, World Coin News, Numismatist, and Thank You Letter from the Alzheimer's Association of Wisconsin.

**Vice President Report:** There are many openings for refreshments in 2020. Please let Jim H. know if you are wanting and able to bring in refreshments. If no one volunteers we go hungry that evening.

**December Meeting:** This month's meeting will be the club's holiday party. If you are planning on attending the meeting then please bring a snack and/or drinks with you to share. Pizza will be provided. There will be expanded show and tell and bingo.

**2020 Elections:** The election slate for next year has been approved. Voting will take place at December's meeting.

**Show and Tell:** Neil S – 1893 Columbian Exposition Souvenir

**Program:** The club's fall auction was held. There was a wonderful selection of items for members to bid and win, including numerous local-interest Milwaukee items. Most items sold to excited buyers, and some lots did surprisingly well.

The meeting was informally adjourned at 7:23pm by President Perrault.

Respectfully submitted by James Kubley, Secretary

## HOLDING HISTORY IN YOUR HANDS

By Tom Casper

Museums have cases filled with artifacts behind glass to be viewed by visitors. While they are beautiful to look at, a viewer is never allowed to touch or feel any of the items. But holding a coin allows a person to do that. There is something special about holding numismatic items in your palm which exudes history. The theme "Holding History in Your Hands" has been used many times when talking about different types of antiquities. But I can't think of a better use for that phrase than to describe the hobby of numismatics. It was the theme used by the American Numismatic Association for National Coin Week in 1996.

When a numismatist picks up a coin, he doesn't look at it as a medium of exchange but a historical object. He immediately asks himself questions about the coin. He will want to know the country it is from and who is the portrait on the coin. He will question what this person did to receive this honor. He will notice the date and think what happened in the year it was struck. If it's an older coin he might imagine who might have handled it. He will want to know what mint struck the coin, the composition and the engraver, and where this coin was kept all these years. And the questions abound.

The collector will find the answers to these and other questions by digging into history. All coins as well as currency can pose these questions. Collecting coins is constantly about studying history.

One branch of numismatics is exnumia. Medals fall into this category, and are divided into different types. Often medals will contain even more history than a coin because they are usually larger than coins and there are no government restrictions as to what can be placed on them. Medals are most often issued to commemorate events, people, and buildings.

One of the unusual categories of medals is "Relic" or "Made From" medals. These medals are made from the metal of objects which they commemorate. Objects such as parts of ships, cannons, bells, or musket balls have been melted down to provide the metal. While these medals can be fun to collect, they can be difficult to find.

While coins are history in your hands, being able to touch the metal used in making a medal, adds a new dimension and special meaning to the expression, Holding History in your Hands.

Shown here are a few examples of these pieces.

**Made from church bell** – Souvenir, Gesu Bazaar, 1849-1899//Made from old St. Gall church bell (Milwaukee, Wisconsin). St. Gall merged with Gesu Church in 1899. White metal, 1" x 1 1/4"

**Made from captured cannon** – Souvenir Captured Cannon, 2" OR. U.S.V., '98, '99 (soldier) Manila, P.I. (blank with pin soldered on reverse). Issued to the U.S. Volunteers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Oregon Regiment on return from the Philippines. Copper, 21mm

**Made from copper bolt** – (Ship) Foudroyant//Made from copper bolt of (Admiral Horatio) Nelson's flagship, Foudroyant. HMS Foudroyant was an 80-gun ship of the Royal Navy launched in 1798. Copper, 17mm



**Made from propeller** – “You May Fire When You Are Ready, Gridley”, (Ship) U.S.S. Olympia// Made from the propeller of Admiral Dewey’s flagship which served in the Battle of Manila Bay, May 1, 1898. Brass, 32mm  
**Made from Apollo and Soyuz** – Apollo, Stafford-Brand-Slayton (space station)//This medallion contains metal from both Apollo and Soyuz that joined together in the first International manned space mission on July 15-24, 1975. This was the first joint space flight between U. S. and Russia. Aluminum, 39mm



**Made from ship** – U.S.S. South Dakota (ship), Battleship “X”, 1942//Coined in part from the battleship U.S.S. South Dakota, known as Battleship “X”. The ship BB-57 was commissioned in 1942 and saw action in WWII. During the war she carried a crew of 2500 men. She was scrapped in 1962. For security purposes she was referred to as Battleship X. Brass, 39mm



## MNS Members Shine in Michigan

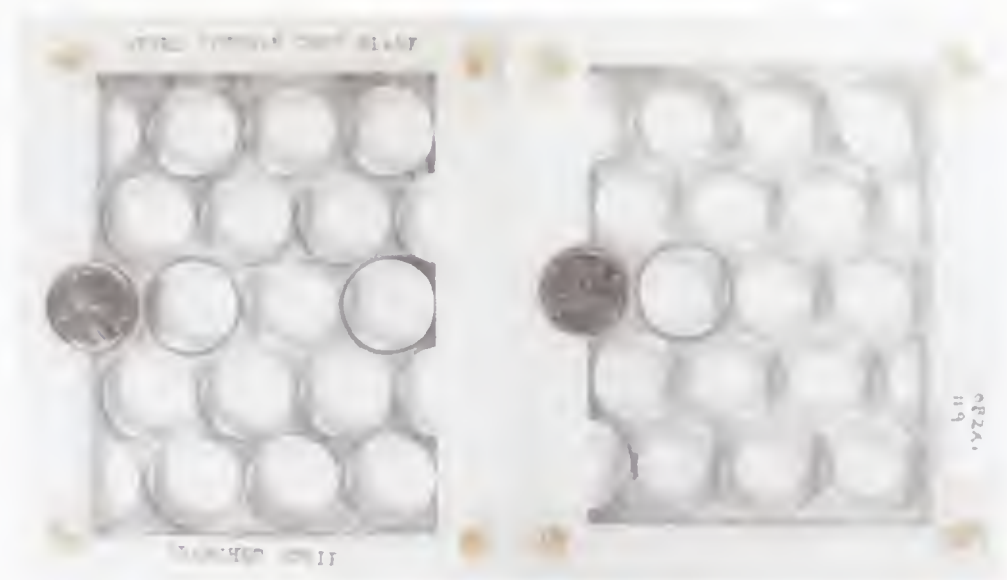
The Michigan State Numismatic Society held their 64<sup>th</sup> Fall Show over the Thanksgiving weekend November 29<sup>th</sup> to December 1<sup>st</sup>. For exhibiting, Floyd Aprill took first place in the medals category with his title “Selected 20<sup>th</sup> Century Medals of the U.S. Assay Commission”. Dave Hunsicker took first place with his exhibit titled “Selected National Bank Notes of Milwaukee, WIS” in the paper money class.

The weekend after Thanksgiving show was well attended, with people standing in line to get in. Dealers were well pleased. Friday night a group got together for dinner at the Coney Island Restaurant. About 20 people attended including such luminaries as Cliff Mishler and Paul Cunningham. Others attending were Al and Ann Bobrofsky (officers), Ernie Nagy, Frank Passie (exhibit chairman), Fred and Boss Schwan, Joe and Louise Boling, Dan and Kathy Freeland, Mike and Jennifer Strub (editors). It was a good show even though it is held during the big Black weekend shopping season.—*Dave Hunsicker*

## Lifted from the e-Sylum electronic newsletter

### 1943 STEEL CENT PLANCHET STRIPS USED IN ROOFING

*Tom DeLorey submitted this great background tale of the Denver-area afterlife of 1943 Steel Cent planchet strips. -Editor*



The recent issue illustrated a nice example of a piece of 1943 steel cent planchet strip. This part of the story concerning the strip is fairly well known, but just in case a few of your readers are unfamiliar with it I will tell it again.

Some time after I started working for ANACS in 1978, fellow Authenticator Ed Fleischmann showed me a similar piece of the webbing and told me that he had gotten it from a dealer up in Denver. The dealer told Ed that during World War Two when a lot of wartime housing was being built fast and cheap, some builders in Denver were forced to use substandard plywood for their roofs. To reinforce the roofs, certain builders nailed down long strips of the steel cent webbing that they got from the Denver Mint.

The Mint was getting its steel cent strip pre-galvanized and rolled from some steel mill. After it punched out the blanks, it had no facility to remelt the webbing into new strip, or galvanize it after they did. The one steel mill in Colorado, Colorado Foundry and Iron in Pueblo, allegedly did not want it as scrap steel because of the zinc galvanization. So, the Mint offered it for sale locally, the builders used it for roofing, and when the wartime housing started needing new roofs 30+ years later the re-roofers salvaged quantities of the webbing and sold it to coin dealers. The dealers cut it up and sold it as shown.

Often it is badly oxidized, but it can be reprocessed like the cents themselves. The longest piece I have ever seen was about five feet.

*Editor Wayne Homren adds the following: I was unfamiliar with this great story. Thanks! Stories of streets paved with gold are a dime a dozen, but a roof made of planchet strips?*

## ANCIENT COINS IN APPLETON

By Tom Casper



We have all heard of grade schools as well as high schools utilizing coins to expand the subjects of art, history and geography. This is not only an excellent way to teach the connection between coins, rulers and countries but also to introduce to them the wonderful hobby of coin collecting.

Recently I became aware that a Wisconsin college is also teaching with coins. Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin has a massive collection of 420 rare ancient coins. It has been appraised as the third best ancient coin collection in the U.S. On October 15, 2019 the coins were shown in the Wriston Art Center Galleries, for Classics students taking Intensive Beginning Latin. The course is being taught by Assistant Professor of Classics Dr. Adriana Brook. The theme for this year's showing was animals on coins, and was given the clever name, The Ancient Coin Petting Zoo. Eight coins were passed around to students wearing gloves who were able to handle and study the coins. They have been doing this each year since 2014 with a different theme each year.

Roman, Greek and Byzantine coins are represented in the collection. The collection was donated to the University by a Lawrence Alumna, Ottilia Buerger of Mayville, Wisconsin. She attended Lawrence from 1934 to 1938 receiving a BA degree in Latin. She taught English and Latin for several years at schools in Goodman, Wautoma and Beaver Dam, Wis.

In 1958 Buerger's interest in history turned to numismatics, specifically ancient coins. Her first purchase was at the coin shop in Gimbel's Department Store in Milwaukee. It was a Roman denarius for about \$5. She thought she might buy some additional coins in the future but never thought of forming a collection. In the mid-1960s she became serious about expanding her collection. She continued buying coins from Gimbel's, and several dealers in California, New York, and Chicago. She also contacted firms overseas, including Seaby's and Spink & Sons of London. Nearly all of the purchased coins were in mint condition. The collection was loaned to Lawrence in 1995 and bequeathed to the University upon her death in 2001. By donating her collection, Ottilia Buerger hoped to enrich and enlighten student learning in art history, classical studies and history. A portion of her collection (232 coins) is catalogued online at <http://thor.lawrence.edu/omeka/buerger/items/browse>.

According to the curator, Beth Zinsli, the key piece in the collection is a large gold medallion of Roman Emperor Constantius II, 337-361AD. This piece is one of only three versions known. The obverse shows a bust of Emperor Constantius facing right with the inscription DN CONST ANTIVS MAX A VGVSTVS. The reverse shows Constantius riding a six-horse chariot with the inscription DN CONST ANTIVS VICTOR SEMPER A VG. The medal is not dated but has the mint mark of Antioch (AN) in exergue. The medal weighs 40.04 grams with a diameter of 4.7 cm. In 2005, a Lawrence student, Julia Ruff wrote a 62-page Honors Project paper on this medallion. The website for this paper is <https://lux.lawrence.edu/luhp/70/>.

Ottilia Buerger wanted her collection to be available to students so they can explore not only the historical and aesthetic importance of the coins themselves, but also their political, religious, economic and artistic contexts. This Ancient Coin Petting Zoo is certainly accomplishing her goal.